

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BERLIN 05676 041656Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 DHA-02 ORM-02 SS-15
NSC-05 H-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EURE-00
/050 W
-----041702Z 054129 /47

P R 041545Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4454
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 5676

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/CE, SCA, VO

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, CGEN, GE, WB, US (THE MEISSNER FAMILY).
SUBJECT: GDR HUMANITARIAN CASE: DRESDEN FAMILY REQUESTS
ASSISTANCE OF PRESIDENT CARTER TO EMIGRATE TO WEST
BERLIN.

1. ON APRIL 1, CHARGE RECEIVED A TELEGRAM FROM ONE HELGE
MEISSNER, 1 BERLIN 42, BORUSSIASTRSSE 50 ASKING SUPPORT
FOR APPLICATION OF HER BROTHER, WILFRED MEISSNER OF DRESDEN,
BLUMENSTRASSE 75B FOR PERMISSION TO LEAVE THE GDR FOR FAMILY
REUNIFICATION IN WEST BERLIN. THE TELEGRAM TRANSLATES
UNOFFICIALLY AS FOLLOWS:

2. " SIR, I TURN TO YOU WITH AN URGENT APPEAL FOR HELP.
MID-FEBRUARY 1977, WILFRED MEISSNER, MY BROTHER IN DRESDEN,
APPEALED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, MR. JAMES
CARTER. MY BROTHER REQUESTED THE PRESIDENT FOR HIS
SUPPORT REPEAT SUPPORT IN CONNECTION WITH EMIGRATION BY HIS
FAMILY TO ME IN WEST BERLIN. ON MARCH 31, 1977, WILFRED
MEISSNER WAS ARRESTED BY THE STATE SECURITY SERVICE ON
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BERLIN 05676 041656Z

THE WAY TO HIS HOME IN DRESDEN, BLUMENSTRASSE 75B. I
ASK, EXCELLENCY, TO INFORM THE PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED ABOUT THIS CAPRICIOUS ACT. PLEASE UNDER-
TAKE SOMETHING FOR THE FREEDOM AND EMIGRATION OF MY
BROTHER AND HIS FAMILY. PLEASE INFORM THE AMERICAN
PUBLIC AND WHOLE FREE WORLD OVER THE NEGLECT OF
HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE GDR. PLEASE GREET THE PRESIDENT

IN NAME OF THE FAMILY OF MY ARRESTED BROTHER AND WE,
HIS FAMILY. WITH DEEPEST RESPECT, HELGE MEISSNER."

3. THE FACT THAT THE ORIGINAL LETTER WAS SENT TO THE
PRESIDENT WAS REPORTED IN "DIE WELT" ON MARCH 30 AND, ON
APRIL 2, EMBASSY WAS TELEPHONED BY AXEL SPRINGER REPRE-
SENTATIVE IN WEST BERLIN WHO ASKED WHEN AND IN WHAT
FORM THE MESSAGE WOULD BE PASSED TO THE PRESIDENT.
EMBOFF SAID THE ENTIRE MATTER WOULD BE REPORTED TO THE
DEPARTMENT " REGULARLY" AND THAT THEDEPARTMENT WOULD
FOLLOW REGULAR PROCEDURES IN BRINGING IT TO THE ATTENTION
OF THE WHITE HOUSE.

4. COMMENT: AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE , THE EMBASSY
HAS HERETOFORE REFRAINED FROM DIRECTLY INVOLVING ITSELF
IN 3RD COUNTRY, E.G. FRG OR WEST BERLIN CASES, IN ORDER
TO ACHIEVE THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE RATE OF SUCCESS IN CASES
INVOLVING AMERICAN CITIZENS AS PRINCIPALS. UNLESS THE
DEPARTMENT ADVISES US TO THE CONTRARY, WE PROPOSE TO
FOLLOW THE SAME PRACTICE OF NON-INVOLVEMENT IN THE
MEISSNER CASE.

POLANSKY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, EXIT VISAS, EMIGRANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BERLIN05676
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770116-1017
Format: TEL
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770492/aaaadcqf.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ed4501ab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2912488
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GDR HUMANITARIAN CASE: DRESDEN FAMILY REQUESTS ASSISTANCE OF PRESIDENT CARTER TO EMIGRATE TO WEST BERLIN.
TAGS: PFOR, CGEN, GC, WB, US, CSCE, (MEISSNER, HELGE), (MEISSNER, WILFRED)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ed4501ab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009